

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

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R 301359Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6412

C O N F I D E N T I A L ASUNCION 5162

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, PA

SUBJ: SEMIANNUAL NARCOTICS REPORT FOR PARAGUAY -  
CONGRESSIONAL PRESENTATION

REF: STATE 286666, STATE 290355, ASUNCION 2878

SECTION A JULY 1 - DECEMBER 31, 1975

OVERVIEW. PARAGUAY SERVES AS AN INTERMEDIATE STOP IN TRAF-  
FICKING OF COCAINE AND METHAMPHETAMINES AND AS A PRODUCER OF  
MARIJUANA. INTELLIGENCE DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD INDICATED  
PRODUCTION OF MARIJUANA AND SMUGGLING OF ALL THREE TYPES OF  
DRUGS WERE ON THE RISE. IN ADDITION--AND MORE ALARMING--  
THERE WERE REPORTS (UNCONFIRMED AS YET) THAT PARAGUAY ONCE  
AGAIN HAS BECOME A TRANSIT POINT IN THE CORSICAN HEROIN  
TRAFFIC, WHICH WAS BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN VIRTUALLY HALTED  
HERE FOLLOWING THE RICORD CASE SEVERAL YEARS AGO.

U.S. MISSION PROGRAM. THE U.S. MISSION'S PRINCIPAL PROGRAM  
FOR NARCOTICS CONTROL IN PARAGUAY INVOLVES MODEST LOGISTICAL  
AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR THE NNA. THE SMALL DRUG ENFORCE-  
MENT UNIT STILL IS INADEQUATE FOR THE TASK IT FACES ALTHOUGH  
COOPERATION ON CASES OF DIRECT CONCERN TO PARAGUAY (E.G.,  
MARIJUANA AND AMPHETAMINES) REMAINS GOOD AND THE NNA'S PER-  
FORMANCE HAS IMPROVED STEADILY. HOWEVER, A SLOWDOWN IN  
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OPERATIONS IS EXPECTED IN LIGHT OF THE DEPLETION OF CCINC

FUNDS; THE \$6,000 AUTHORIZED FOR FY 76 WAS SPENT BY DECEMBER 6, AND THE POORLY FINANCED NNA WILL BE SEVERELY RESTRICTED WITHOUT NEW ASSISTANCE (THE EMBASSY HAS REQUESTED AN ADDITIONAL \$6,000). LABORATORY EQUIPMENT ON HAND IN ASUNCION HAS NOT YET BEEN TURNED OVER TO THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH PENDING SELECTION OF A SITE FOR A DRUG ANALYSIS LABORATORY. (A SYMBOLIC PRESENTATION OF THE LABORATORY EQUIPMENT WAS MADE DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD, HOWEVER, AS A SPUR TO THE GOP TO SECURE THE NECESSARY SPACE.)

A. ASSISTANCE AGREEMENTS. NO NEW ASSISTANCE AGREEMENTS WERE SIGNED DURING THE PERIOD.

B. TOTAL OBLIGATIONS AND EXPENDITURES. (1) PERSONNEL, NONE; (2) EQUIPMENT, \$15,004; (3) CONTRACT SERVICES, NONE; (4) OTHER, \$6,000, AND (5) TRAINING, NONE.

C. EQUIPMENT. CATEGORY (1) - NONE; CATEGORY (2), COMMUNICATIONS, \$5,210; LABORATORY, \$7,400; AND LABORATORY, \$1,626.

D. SUPPORT COSTS. \$6,000.

E. TRAINING. NO TRAINING PROGRAMS WERE CARRIED OUT DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD. ONE NNA AGENT AND ONE CUSTOMS AGENT ARE SCHEDULED TO RECEIVE DEA TRAINING IN WASHINGTON IN APRIL, 1976.

F. PERSONNEL. THERE ARE TWO DEA AGENTS AND ONE SECRETARY AT POST. A THIRD DEA AGENT POSITION, VACANT FOR OVER A YEAR, IS TO BE FILLED IN FEBRUARY, AND A DEA REQUEST FOR ANOTHER SECRETARY IS AWAITING APPROVAL. TWO DEA AGENTS WERE ASSIGNED TDY DURING DECEMBER TO COVER FOR SAIC WHO IS ABSENT FROM POST ON HOME LEAVE.  
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## Message Attributes

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